



January 23, 2020

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

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POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RE: Docket RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

We join the Nonprofit Alliance and the nonprofit community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. These increases – which are estimated to reach 28-40% over the next five years – will have a negative impact on our ability to carry out our mission.

American Leprosy Missions works to cure people affected by leprosy and related diseases around the world, care for those affected, and ultimately end these devastating diseases. Last year, our donors helped relieve suffering and restore hope to more than 200,000 men, women and children across the globe.

Since the launch of American Leprosy Missions more than 110 years ago, direct mail has been an important part of our work. Today we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. But if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission.

American Leprosy Missions is not able to increase our budget to keep pace with postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years. Any expense, such as postage, that exceeds our means will result in necessary reductions in our use of mail. Such a reduction will lead to less revenue, limiting our reach and reducing the amount our organization can spend on life-changing programs.

American Leprosy Missions urges the Postal Regulatory Commission to reconsider its proposal.

Sincerely,

Bill Simmons
President and CEO